

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 88

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: MICHÈLE BECHKOWIAK MONTGOMERY PRESENT POSITION Sculptor

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 8-20-57 PAINESVILLE, OH.

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: SCULPTURE / MIXED

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.): THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER, B.A.
THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART
CRANBROOK ACADEMY OF ART, MFA

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

- 1987 "The Greater Midwest International Exhibition III" Central Missouri State U., Warrensburg, Mo.
1987 The Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI.
1987 Town Center Gallery, Southfield, MI.
1986 The Robert Kidd Gallery, Birmingham, MI.
1986 The Galleries of Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ.
1986 Forum Gallery, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 1986 Peterboro Gallery, Detroit, MI.

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Representation: The Robert Kidd Gallery,
Birmingham, MI.

AWARDS:

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

"Inside Out" is a multi-layered piece representing life.

Fundamentally, the piece is made up of hangers & cloth, the progeny.
While the cedar table & bronze sewing machine represent the progenitors.

Specifically, the work draws its form & content from the domestic landscape.

Psychologically, the piece is autobiographical. Owing its pluralistic use of materials & type forms to the post modern condition of which I am a part.

Culturally, the piece is about clothing. Clothing as commodity, clothing as architecture. Clothing & how it represents us as individuals.

From an art historical perspective, the piece has classical roots reflecting the 'carved' marble draperies of antiquity. The irony is in the 'casting' not 'carving' of the draperies (an additive not subtractive act) & the simulation of 'bronze-ness' of the cloth. All of the references to the heroic are reduced to be supporters of the vernacular hanger form.

Michele B. Montgomery

835 Bush #15
San Francisco, CA
415-928-0452

Education

- 1986-87 MFA Sculpture; Cranbrook Academy
of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.
- 1982-85 The Cleveland Institute of Art,
Cleveland, OH.
- 1975-79 BA French/Art; The College of
Wooster, Wooster, OH.
- 1977 Study Abroad; John Knox Center,
Geneva, Switzerland.

Employment

- 1987 Cranbrook Art Museum Bookstore,
Salesperson, Bloomfield Hills, MI.
- 1986-87 Cranbrook Art Museum, Museum Guard,
Bloomfield Hills, MI.
- 1982-86 Aetna Life & Casualty, Sr. Property
Claim Specialist, Cleveland, OH.
- 1982-86 Free Lance Art Work, Cleveland, OH.
- 1980-81 Aetna Life & Casualty, Claim
Specialist, Houston, TX.
- 1979 Zabriskie Gallery, Gallery Apprentice,
New York, NY.
- 1978 The College of Wooster, French
Teaching Assistant, Wooster, OH.
- 1977 Governess, Paris, France.

Exhibitions

- 1988 "The May Show"; Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH. Juried.
- 1987 "The Greater Midwest International Exhibition III"; Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO. Juried.
- 1987 Thesis Degree Show; Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI.
- 1987 "For Love or Money"; Town Center Gallery, Southfield, MI.
- 1986 "One Day"; The Robert Kidd Gallery, Birmingham, MI. Juried.
- 1986 Sculptors Drawings from Cranbrook; The Galleries of Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ.
- 1986 "Ultra Media"; Forum Gallery, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Juried.
- 1986 "16 North"; Peterboro Gallery, Detroit, MI. Juried.

Representation

The Robert Kidd Gallery, Birmingham, MI.

References

Roy Slade, President
Cranbrook Academy of Art
500 Lone Pine Rd., Box 801
Bloomfield Hills, MI.

Michael Hall, Chair
Sculpture Department
Cranbrook Academy of Art
500 Lone Pine Rd., Box 801
Bloomfield Hills, MI.

Michael McCoy, Co-Chair
Design Department
Cranbrook Academy of Art
500 Lone Pine Rd., Box 801
Bloomfield Hills, MI

Steve Murakishi, Chair
Printmaking Department
Cranbrook Academy of Art
500 Lone Pine Rd., Box 801
Bloomfield Hills, MI.